

Capt. MARVEL

AND THE KING OF THE CRATER

WHEN I TELL YOU THIS CASE WAS HOT STUFF, I MEAN JUST THAT! WAIT 'TIL I TELL YOU OF THE TIME CAPTAIN MARVEL SOLVED THE STRANGE RIDDLE OF VOLCANOES WAKENING IN THE CENTER OF THE UNITED STATES!

W H I O

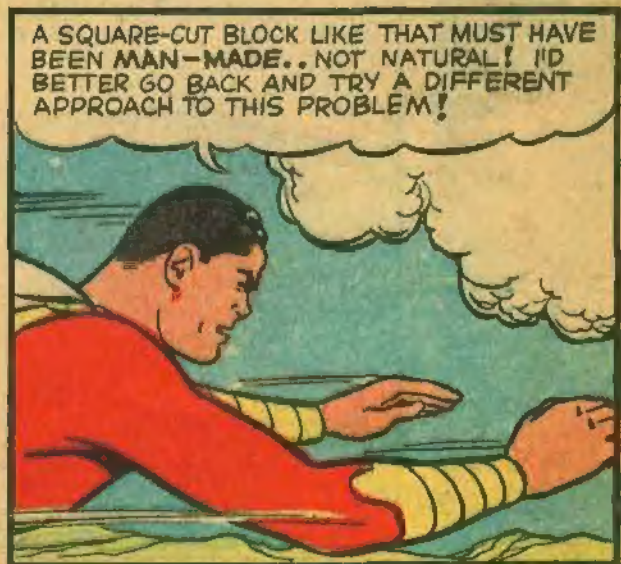


WITHOUT WARNING...WITHOUT MERCY! A MOUNTAIN PEAK OF THE ROCKIES BURSTS OPEN... OUT GUSHES FIRE!

IS THAT YOU, BILLY BATSON? YOU'RE OUT NEAR THE SCENE OF THAT DISASTER! HOP INTO A PLANE AND GET US AN EYE-WITNESS ACCOUNT RIGHT FROM THE CRATER!

YES SIR, MR. MORRIS!

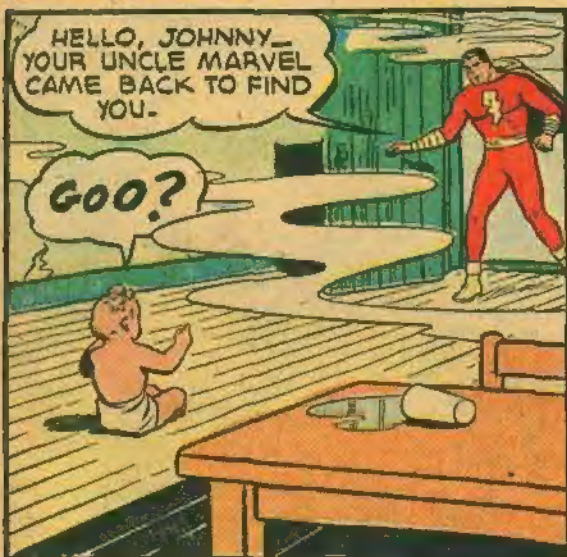






AS BILLY BATSON AGAIN, HE INTERVIEWS...





RIGHT YOU ARE, CHIEF! IT'S ALMOST AS THOUGH SOME HUMAN VILLAIN CONTROLLED THOSE FIRES... USING THEM TO TORMENT POOR PEOPLE!

PERHAPS THAT'S JUST WHAT'S BEHIND THIS, GOVERNOR!



YOU'D BETTER KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, SON!

I DO KNOW! I CAN SHOW YOU A ROCK THAT CAME FROM THE VOLCANO... CUT SQUARE AS IF BY TOOLS.

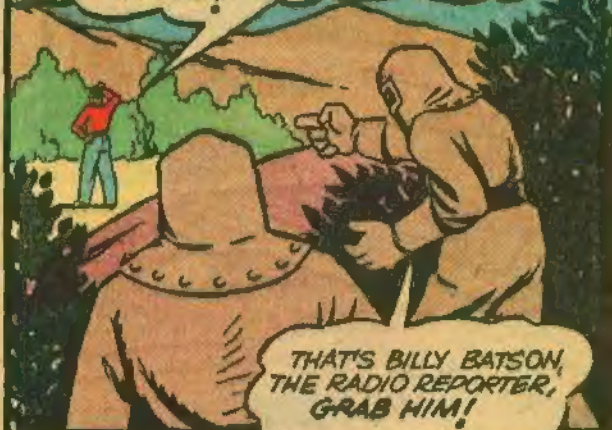


HERE'S WHERE IT FELL! THE STONE... WHERE...?

SORRY, BATSON, WE HAVE OTHER THINGS TO DO BESIDES GO ON WILD GOOSE CHASES!



BUT IT COULDN'T HAVE WALKED AWAY! NOW I KNOW THAT A MAN... AND A DISTINCTLY WRONG BIRD... IS MIXED UP IN THIS!



THAT'S BILLY BATSON, THE RADIO REPORTER, GRAB HIM!

YOU'RE MY PRISONER!

SHA-



ZZZZZ!!

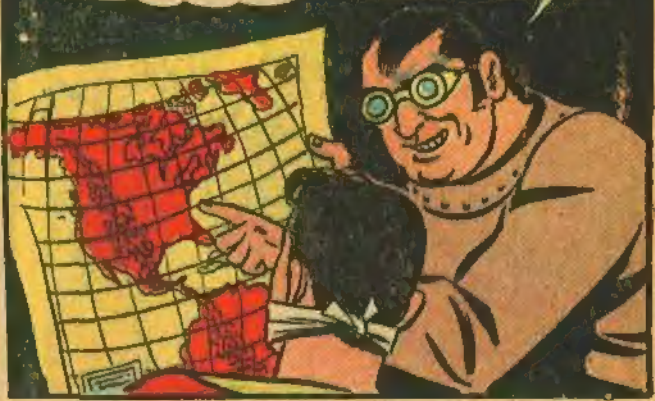


BUT THE WORD OF POWER IS HALF SPOKEN WHEN A BRUTAL BLOW STUNS BILLY!

WHICH MEANS-- WHERE ARE YOU?
 MMM? MMMM?
 YOU'RE IN MY POWER, BILLY BATSON--
 THIS CAVE IS JUST OFF THE TUBE
 OF THE VOLCANO, AND NOBODY'S
 GOING TO RESCUE YOU! AS FOR ME,
 MY NAME'S MAWK'S, AND YOU CAN CALL
 ME **KING OF THE CRATER!**



SEE THIS MOUNTAIN CHAIN? IT RUNS FROM
 ALASKA TO THE PANAMA CANAL-- BELOW THAT,
 IT BECOMES THE ANDES IN SOUTH AMERICA!
 UNDERNEATH IT, AS I HAVE FOUND, IS A HIGH-
 PRESSURE BELT OF FIRE FROM THE CENTER
 OF THE EARTH!



MY MEN AND I WILL BUILD MACHINERY TO
 CONTROL THAT FIRE! WE CAN START
 VOLCANOES ANYWHERE IN THE ROCKIES--AND
 WE WILL! WE'LL SIT ON TOP OF THE FIRE
 AND RULE A STRIP OF COUNTRY WHERE
 NOBODY CAN COME, EXCEPT BY OUR
 PERMISSION--



--AND THAT PERMISSION WILL COST PLENTY!
 I CAPTURED YOU SO THAT YOU COULD BROADCAST
 MY TERMS TO THE WORLD! SPEAK UP--
 TELL THEM THAT I'VE GOT THEM WHERE
 THEY HAVE TO DO AS I SAY.



HELLO, FOLKS, BILLY BATSON ON THE AIR
 AGAIN! A MAN CALLING HIMSELF MAWK'S,
 KING OF THE CRATER, IS CAUSING ALL
 THOSE ERUPTIONS! HE SWEARS HE WILL
 FLOOD THE MOUNTAIN COUNTRY WITH FIRE
 UNLESS HE'S ALLOWED TO RULE
 IT--

GOOD!



--BUT HE'S **NOT GOING TO SUCCEED!**
 THERE'S SOMEBODY WHO CAN MOP HIM UP
 LIKE A PUDDLE--AND THAT SOMEBODY IS
CAPTAIN MARVEL!

YOU LITTLE
 DOUBLE-CROSSER!



I'M GOING TO BE BOSS, AND YOU'D BETTER ALL KNUCKLE UNDER WHILE YOU'VE GOT THE CHANCE! AS FOR CAPTAIN MARVEL, I DON'T BELIEVE THERE IS ANY SUCH MAN!

YOU'LL SEE, MAWKS!
SHA...



DON'T SASS THE KING LIKE THAT, YOU LITTLE PUNK!

THAT SMACKING NOISE YOU HEARD, FOLKS, WAS BILLY BATSON LEARNING A LESSON IN MANNERS! HIS MAJESTY MAWKS SIGNING OFF!

SMACK!



NICE WORK, MY MAN! TOSS HIM DOWN THE SHAFT... WITHOUT ANY HEAT-ARMOR!



BYE, BYE, BATSON!

UGH!



SHAZAM!

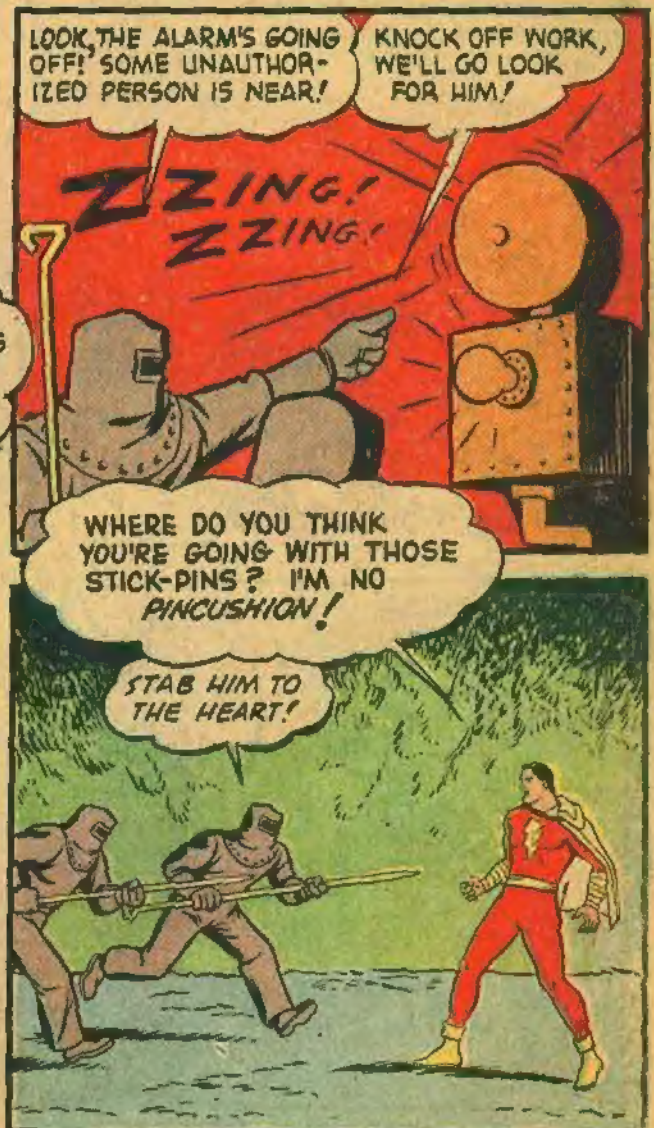
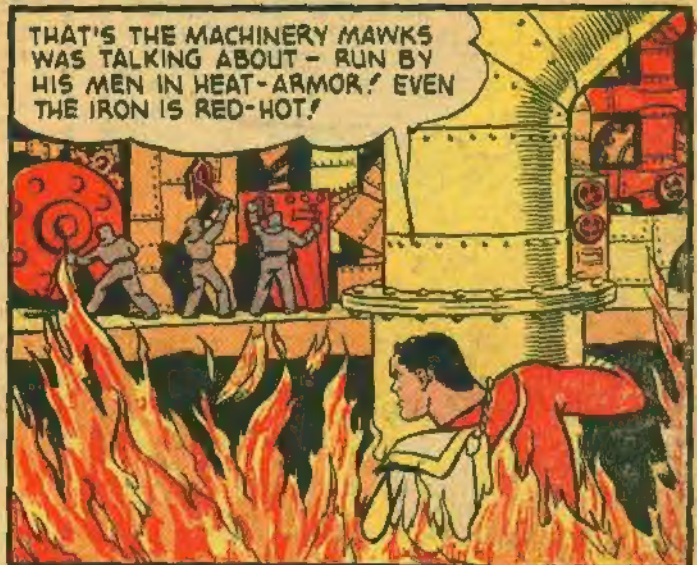


WHOOM



BUT IT IS CAPTAIN MARVEL WHO SPLASHES IN!















HEAT, SMOKE, STEAM, LAVA!
THIS CANYON CAN HOLD
IT ALL AND NEVER
KNOW THE
DIFFERENCE!



NOT A BAD PIECE OF
WORK! SO I'LL SAY
GOODBYE FOR NOW,
OR IS IT—

SHAZAM



THAT'S HOW **CAPTAIN
MARVEL** STOPPED THAT
MENACE, FOLKS! THE ONLY
RESULT OF CRATER KING'S HUGE
PLOT IS THAT UP IN A SELDOM-
VISITED SPOT IN THE ROCKIES WHERE
THERE USED TO BE A CANYON THERE
IS NOW A LAKE OF HARDENED LAVA
WHICH WILL
NEVER
THREATEN
HARM TO
ANYBODY
AGAIN.



WANT A SWELL PRESENT?

BE SURE YOU GET THE **BIGGEST** OF ALL
COMIC MAGAZINES AND YOUR XMAS
WILL BE A MILLION TIMES AS MERRY!
IT HAS **324 PAGES** OF RIP-ROARING
ADVENTURES BY **CAPTAIN MARVEL**..
BULLETMAN..**SPY SMASHER**..**MINUTE
MAN**..**M.R. SCARLET**..
SANTA CLAUS, HIMSELF, SAYS:
"**IT'S ONE OF THE DANDIEST
GIFTS I EVER SAW!**"

XMAS COMICS WILL BE ON
SALE AT NEWSDEALERS AND
STATIONERY STORES ABOUT **NOV. 26.**

